

THE

REHEARSAL.

1. How Bays Mov'd the *Auditory* to Clap his Play.
2. The Declaration against Coercion in the Act of Uniformity being taken away, do's not Infer the Allowance of Coercion.
3. The Pass of Coercion fairly Hunted down.
4. Three Questions upon the Statute 12 Car. 2. c. 30. Which being Answer'd, I will Answer the *Observer's* Captious Questions.
5. The Coronation-Oath Urg'd by the *Observer* makes against him.

WEDNESDAY, November 17. 1708.

(1.) *Country-man.* **T**HE *Observer* has got the Better of you now, *Master*, for, as shew'd in your last, he has Threaten'd the *Queen* and the whole Revolution, to bring them all *Sub-Misericordia* (and he has told us what that is) if you will not yield him the Point of Coercion, and you must yield any thing to save all these!

Rehears. This is my Bays directly! He Stole this from old Bays, who to Engage the *Auditory* to Clap his Play, came out in a long Black Cloak, with an Ugly ill-Looking Fellow behind him, carrying a Huge Two-handed Sword ready Drawn, and told the *Auditory*, That that Fellow wou'd Immediately Cut off his Head, if they did not Clap his Play!

Country-man. That Fellow's Name was Coercion. And this Bays has brought him upon the Stage, to Face the whole *Auditory*, *Queen*, *Revolution*, and All; and to Cut off all their Heads, if they will not say, That He's a Pretty Fellow!

Rehears. He must Kill all the Laws too, before he can secure his Point. For I have shew'd how Sufficiently they all Damn him.

(2.) *Country-m.* But the *Observer* says, in his of the 3d Instant, Num. 75. That Declaration in the Act of Uniformity, against Coercive power is Repeal'd.

Rehears. This Shews him past all Shame, and that he has nothing to say. For I gave an Answer to this in mine of the 10 March last. Of which the *Observer* taking no Notice, he Trumpet the Objection up again in his of the 8 Sept. last. To which I answer'd again in mine of the 9 Oct. And without any Answer to either of these, he now brings it again!

I told him, That he might as well Plead the Act of Uniformity in favour of the Covenant, because the Time therein

Specify'd for Signing a Declaration against it, is Expir'd. And no otherwise do's it Justify Coercion; to take away the Obligation of Signing the Declaration against it, and the Penalties that are Annex'd to it. For these need not Last for Ever. But this Alters not the Doctrine. How often have the Whiggs pleaded, That the 30th of January has been kept long enough? And suppose it now taken away, wou'd that Infer that the *Queen* and *Parliament* did Justify the Murder of R. Cha. I.? No more do's taking away that Declaration Justify Coercion. The most can be made of this, is but a Squint towards Coercion. And that too as any one please to Think. But where is the Law Enacting it? Or Repealing those Laws wherein it stands Condemn'd for Ever? That it Never was, or Is, or Ever ought to be Allow'd. As is particularly Express'd in the Statute 12 Car. II. c. 30.

(3.) Is that Statute Repeal'd? Come, Mr. *Observer*, speak out. I have shew'd you, That it is now Allow'd as good Law in *Westminster-Hall*. I gave you a fresh Instance of it, Num. 3. of this Volume. And Num. 4. the 13. last Month, I told you it never Wou'd be Repeal'd. Nay, That it Cou'd not be Repeal'd. And you have said Nothing in Answer to all this. Tho' I told you; that your whole Cause depended upon it. And that while this Statute stood, Coercion must ever stand Condemn'd by the Law of England. Yet you'r Silent herein— And Bounce for all that!

Country-m. It is but as a Man Bounces in his Saddle, when he is Shot. You'l hear no more of him upon this Subject. Dead! Dead! You may call off your Dogs. The Commonwealth Puls of Coercion is Sub Misericordia! Fairly Run down, she cannot say but she has had Hunts-Man's-Law.

(4.)

(4.) *Rehears. Law!* Ay, that's it has *Chok'd* her— Mr. *Observer*, you are very Apt to ask Questions, and say to me, as in this same *Observer*, N. 75. Now I demand a plain Answer to these plain Matters of Fact, otherwise I must Post him up as a Shameless, Equivocating, and Shuffling Libeller, &c. Thus say you to me. Now is it not as Fair for me to Ask you a Question, as you to Ask me! Therefore I demand a plain Answer to this plain Matter of Fact, 1. Whether Coercion is not Absolutely and Totally Overthrown by the Statute 12 Car. II. c. 30. 2^{dly}. Whether that Statute is not still of Force, and the Law of the Land? And then 3^{dly}. whether Coercion is not Contrary to the Known and Established Law of England? These, Sir, are plain Questions, and of a very plain Matter of Fact. And they are Necessary to be Determin'd in the Dispute betwixt you and Me. And if you will give me a Fair and Clear Answer to these, I promise to Answer all the Questions you shall Ask me for a Week Particularly, as to the Letter the late King James wrote at Rochester, and his Invading Ireland (as you say) with an Army; which you bring to Justify Coercion. Now, Sir, if you will not Answer me, I will not Answer you. And I may Post you, as you Threaten me, for a Shameless, Equivocating, and Shuffling Libeller. But remember, this is your Language, not Mine. For I deal not in that Commodity. I love a little Proving with all my heart: but ill Words Reflect only upon those that Give them. And, we need not Suppose the Reader so Dull, as not to see the Blockhead and the Fool, when he Reads the Arguments.

(5.) *Country-m.* He says in the same *Observer*, That all our Kings were Expressly Sworn to the Observation of St. Edward's Laws, till the *Rehearsers*'s Faction curtail'd the Oath, when the late King James was Crown'd.

Rehears. I know nothing of the Curtailing. I never heard of it before. We must take that upon the veracity of the *Observer*, according to the Truth of several other things he has told us!

But the Coronation Oath taken by King Char. II. was this. The Lord Bishop of London said to him,

"Sir, will you Grant and Keep, and
"by the Oath Confirm to the People of
"England, the Laws and Customes to them
"Granted by the Kings of England, your
"Lawful and Religious Predecessors. And
"Namely the Laws Customes and Franchises granted to the Clergy, by the glorious King St. Edward your Predecessor,
"according to the Laws of God, the true
"Profession of the Gospel Established in

"this Kingdom, and agreeing to the Prerogative of the Kings thereof, and the
"Ancient Customes of this Realm.

To which the King Answer'd,

I Grant and Promise to keep them.

Country-man. All this makes against the *Observer*. For all that is Mention'd of St. Edward's Laws was the Franchises he Granted to the Clergy. And I suppose the *Observer's* Concern is not Great to have these kept up to the Full! In the next clap ther is a Limitation as to the Laws, &c. here Granted by the King, that is, That they be Agreeable to the Law of God, and to the Prerogative of the Kings of England. And is it their Prerogative, that the People shou'd have Coercion over them? And is this Agreeable to the Law of God? You have sufficiently Canvass'd that Point already. But lastly, our Laws are here said to be all Granted by our Kings. Here is nothing of Parliaments, as a Co-Ordinate Power with the King.

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